

# Period product disposal in India: the tipping point

Ashna Biju

(E-mail: ab2540@cam.ac.uk)

## ISSUE



Current practices include local incineration and burial of period products

## IMPACTS

- Microplastics in marine ecosystems
- Sewage backflow and dirty drinking water
- Organochlorines disturb soil microflora
- HIV/hepatitis retains infectivity in soil
- Incineration releases carcinogenic dioxins
- Inadequate PPE for conservancy workers

## SOLUTION: THREE-SPHERE MODEL

### Education

Community-focussed workshops  
Changes to Indian school curriculum  
Educational marketing + social media campaigns  
Counselling for young people and adults

Governmental responsibility  
Segregated collection of sanitary products  
Larger-level incinerators  
Free distribution of period products  
PPE for conservancy workers

### Organisation

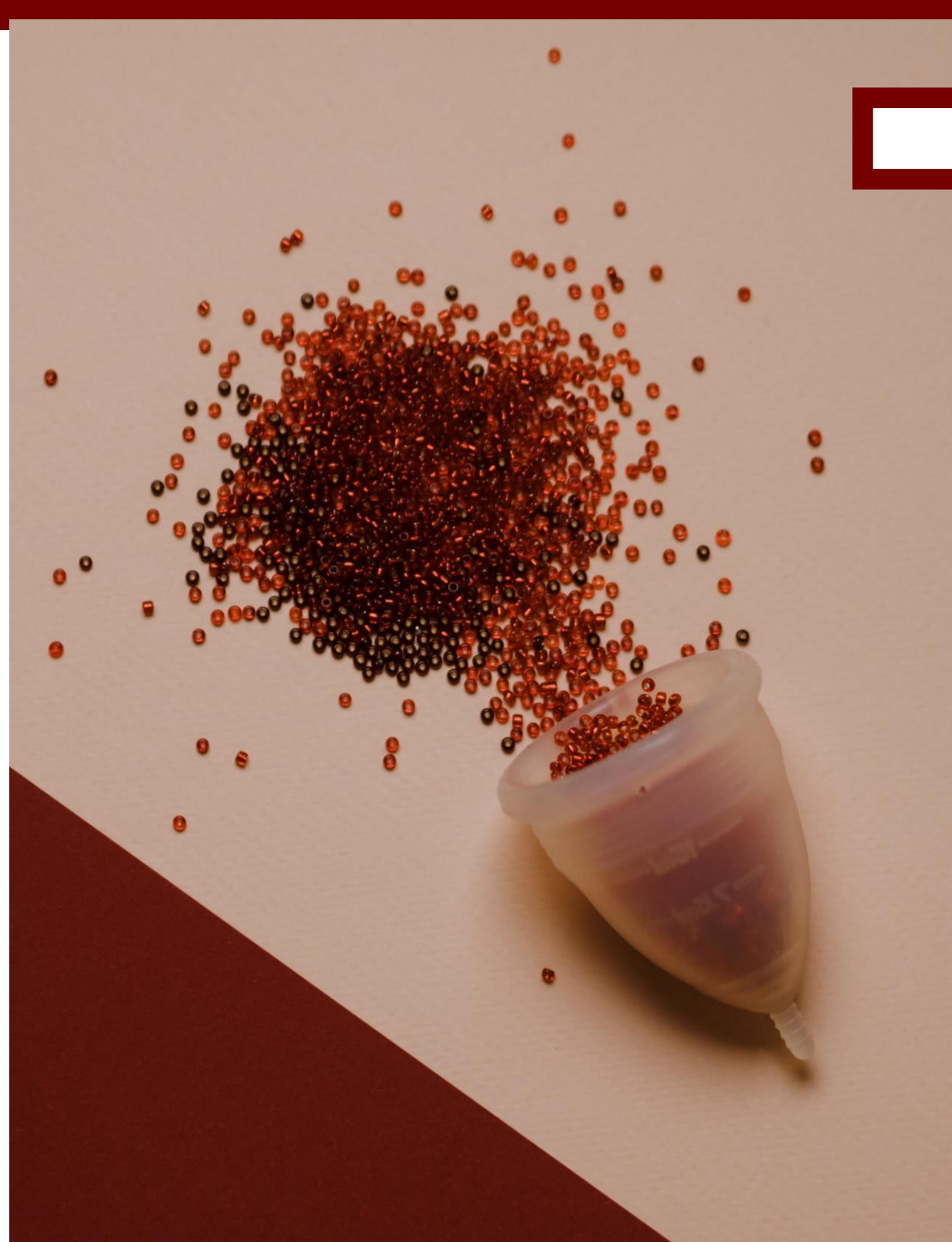
Reusable products  
Grassroots initiatives  
Intergenerational education  
Destigmatising menstrual/sexual health  
Technological innovations

### Sustainability

## CASE STUDY

### Muhamma, Kerala

- 5500 cloth pads
- 500 menstrual cups
- Educated women on use and importance
- Plans to manufacture cloth pads to provide jobs
- Limited by lack of funding or national organisation



## KEY MESSAGE

The Indian government must organise a centralised system for period product disposal before a physical, and metaphorical, tipping point is reached.



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